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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, January 6, 1812, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Washington Jany 6. 1812

Dear Sir

A circumstance has occurr'd with which it may be useful for you to be made acquainted, merely to put you on your guard. You have doubtless seen a letter publish'd in the gazettes, which is imputed top Genl. Wilkinson & said to be written from this place in 1803 to Mr. Power at N. Orleans, requesting him to use the Genl.'s influence with the Spn. authority there to prevent the restoration of the deposit. It is understood that the authenticy of the letter is admitted, & the explanation given of the measure, which I have recently & casually heard, is the circumstance with which I wish you to be acquainted. It is this that the letter was written with yours & Genl. Dearborne's knowledge & approbation, & that a copy of it was at that time deposited in the war office. Knowing of this explanation you will be prepar'd by reflection for the answer which ought to be given to any application that may be made to you on the subject. You need not answer this. I write in haste for the mail. Very respectfully yr friend & servant Jas. Monroe

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).